

The Ohio Statesman

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The Birth of the Enemy—The Prolongation of the War.

We reproduce in this paper two articles from two of the leading and most conservative Republican and Administration journals of New York—one from the *World*, on the "Strength of the Enemy," and the other from the *Evening Post*, on the "Prolongation of the War."

We comment both these articles, coming from the sides they do, to the calm and considerate action of the reader. We do not subscribe to every sentiment and statement put forth in the two articles; we think there is, moreover, some exaggeration in each; but it is true as much of fact and sound argument, which the country ought to know and appreciate, as to make them worthy of something more than a mere cursory reading.

The topics discussed are of painful interest. It is necessary to look the difficulties and dangers that surround us full in the face. We shall never be prepared to meet and overcome this great rebellion, until we have some just and adequate conception of its dimensions and the power by which it has been sustained, and enabled at this moment to present a powerful and threatening front. He who tells us the truth in plain, unvarnished phrase, though it may rob us of some of our cherished but delusive hopes of an easy victory, is no enemy, but a wise and judicious friend.

It is well that the conductors of certain leading Republican and Administration journals have at last got their eyes open, and are not telling some unpalatable, but most wholesome truths, which other journalists saw, six months ago, just as clearly as the editors of the *World* and *Post* do now, but were forbidden their plain and full expression under the pains and penalties of being suspected of, and perhaps imprisoned for secretly favoring and sympathizing with the rebels.

But time has wrought a great change. The truth must now come out, for circumstances and events are rapidly evolving it, and the people begin to discern it. Further attempts at concealment and deception are useless, and will result with terrible effect upon those who have been instrumental in misleading the public. This war is no child's play, to be carried on as a frolic, and ended when the recreation begins. It is a little tiresome. It is a serious undertaking—the length and the final issue of which are yet among the inscrutable mysteries of the future.

The world regards the great strength of the South to be in its slave population—that while Republican journals were, a short time since, calculating upon a sure element of weakness and destruction. The slaves are now admitted to be the bane of the Southern rebellion.

The Post proposes that the Government shall act the part of a Delilah, and shear off these locks. But Samson must first be caught and caged, either by coaxing or by force, before this feat can be easily accomplished. Onering the attempt might prove as hopeless as the tragedian's assertion of his right to shear the wolf.

The indications are that the Administration is to be vehemently and ceaselessly pressed by the organs and politicians especially its supporters, to adopt the policy of using as allies all the fugitive slaves it can procure, as the only sure means of weakening and overcoming the rebels. And though the Post accuses it of reluctance and hesitancy, it has shown a disposition at least to try the experiment, as is evidenced by the instructions given to the commanders of the great naval expedition recently ordered to the Southern coast.

Bonapartian Slipping.

We are advised by telegraph that Senator McClellan of Michigan; Wade, of Ohio; Tammie, of Illinois; and Wilkinson, of Minnesota, are at Washington, representing that the popular demand is that McClellan, or some one else, shall immediately whip the rebels on the south side of the Potomac in a pitched battle, and as near to Bull Run as possible, and from thence roll the tide of war steadily southward, till it meets the waters of the Gulf.

This is all very well; but if the President or Gen. McClellan would arrest these meddlesome Senators, and send them to Fort Lafayette, he would be doing the country a service.

If Mr. Wade is so anxious in desiring that the "popular demands of his constituents" should be carried out, would it not be well to let him resign his seat in the Senate? On that point he is now well informed, and will be better, when the Legislature meets to elect his successor this winter.

We have had quite enough of this congressional interference in the management of the war. What do such men know of the programme for such an army to move or bring on a battle? This kind of clamor from blockhead senators, representives and editors, urged on commanders into one battle, the result of which will not very soon be forgotten.

The "popular demand" was very emphatic, that heretofore such a defiance should not be regarded, that the vicious and ignorant masters should attend to their own business and let the Administration and the commanding officers of the army be the judges as to the time and manner of bringing on an engagement. What do Zeno Chandler, or Wilkinson, or Wade, know about the management of the army? The two former, particularly, are, by universal consent, the very weakest men in the Senate. They stand nearly perpendicular somewhere about seven feet, but in mental capacity they are decidedly short. If the popular demand could be executed they would soon have leave to retire where "the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." We hope the day is not far remote when the Senate will be relieved of such weak and presumptuous men. It will be a happy day for the country.

The truth is, these men are anxious to have Gen. McClellan superseded. They are anxious to have Gen. McClellan "or some one else" "immediately, if not sooner," whip the rebels. The people are anxious that Gen. McClellan should whip the rebels, but they are not anxious that he should be forced, by a lot of blockhead Senators, into a battle, until he feels certain he will not be compelled to re-produce the Bull Run tragedy. Let us have no more exaggerated of New York Tribune battles. One is quite enough.

Mr. Lawler, who was arrested some time ago at Cincinnati, Ohio, having stepped to the rebel confederacy, attempted to escape from Fort Leavenworth, Sunday morning. He had a wet tub and life-preserver, with which he expected to make his way to the shore. A sentinel discovered the gentleman, who tried the virtue of a bag of gold, which did not pass, and he was returned to prison.

Soldiers' Discharge Papers.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 30.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
WASHINGTON, Oct. 19, 1861.

The following memorandum is published for the government of all officers concerned in the preparation of soldiers' discharge papers:

Paymaster General's Office,

October 16, 1861.

The papers presented by discharged soldiers at this office, and to the various Paymasters, being, in a great many instances, very defective and imperfect, so that the soldier is often obliged to return for new ones, or loses a portion of the amount properly due him, which would be avoided by proper preparation and by the correct form of discharge papers, the following directions are published, for the information to which much trouble and loss to the soldier will be avoided:

A soldier, when discharged, should receive papers, if in amount of disability, viz.: one discharge, two Surgeon's certificates of disability—duplicate—and two certificates to be given volunteers at the time of their discharge to entitle them to receive their pay, also duplicates. These last papers are usually called "Final Statements." Blank forms of all these documents are to be obtained at the Paymaster-General's office in Washington, and commanding officers of the regiments, corps, and brigades should always have a sufficient supply of them.

The blacks in these papers should be carefully filled up and signed by the proper officers. Where there is nothing to be inserted in any blank space, a line should be drawn through it. The discharge must be signed by the commanding officer of the regiment, and countersigned by the commanding general, and by the surgeon in command of the division, corps, or brigade. The surgeon must be countersigned by the medical director or the hospital steward.

The "final statement" must be signed by the commanding officer of the camp, and carefully filled up; they should state particularly the date and place where the soldier joined for service, and date and place of his discharge, and give the reason of his discharge. The date of payment of his pay to the soldier, or, if he has never received any pay, and give the total amount of money paid him as his service, or that he has not received any pay allowance, should be that of the case. They should also give a list of articles of clothing furnished the soldier, either by the United States or by his own State; and if by the latter the cost of each article. They should also state all other stoppages made, and the amount of arrears stopped against him, giving the amount of arrears stopped against him.

These directions are to be followed in the cases where the discharge is for other cause than disability, in which case the soldier must have the above mentioned papers, excepting the surgeon's certificate.

When a soldier wishes his pay remitted to him on his discharge, he must forward all the above papers to the Paymaster-General's office, together with two receipts (duPLICATE) which should be signed by the surgeon (DUPLICATES), and by the commanding officer of the regiment, corps, or brigade. The surgeon must be countersigned by the medical director or the hospital steward.

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